

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 were pending when last examined. With this Amendment, Claims 1 and 14 have been amended. All pending claims are shown in the detailed listing above.

Specification

According to the Examiner: “there are numerous grammatical errors throughout the specification which should be corrected in response to this office action.” These grammatical errors have been corrected in this response. As such, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the objection.

The Examiner also objects to the title of the invention as not descriptive and states that a new title is required. Applicants have amended the title to: “Inverter Driver and Method.” As such, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the objection to the title.

Drawings

According to the Examiner, “no capacitor is seen in instant Fig. 3, although it is referred to in the specification at page 4 [para 0028]. Also, Fig. 4 is incorrect in that the input to amplifier 430 should be ‘Vcomp’ (not Vmo), see the specification at page 10 [para 0069]. Moreover, ‘Vcomp’ needs to be labelled in instant Fig. 1. Finally, it is not clear where in Fig. 1 the ‘amplifying means’ is referred to at page 5 [para 0031, line 6].”

Applicants have amended Figs. 1 and 4 of the drawings. In Fig. 1, a capacitor C3 which was not previously shown in the figure has been added. In addition, “Vcomp” is now labelled in Fig. 1. As for Fig. 4, the input amplifier 430 has been changed to “Vcomp.” Lastly, the “amplifying means” referred to is performed by comparator 240, which is described in paragraph 0031 of the Specification.

In the Office Action of December 29, 2004, the Examiner indicated that the Response filed on December 9, 2004 by Applicants was non-compliant because the drawings submitted therewith were not in accordance with the Revised Amendment Practice. In particular, the Examiner pointed out that “each sheet of replacement or annotated drawing must be labelled in the top margin as ‘replacement’ or ‘annotated.’”

Applicants submit herewith replacement sheets with amendments to Fig. 1 and Fig. 4. Applicant also submit herewith annotated marked-up drawings. Each of the replacement sheets and annotated drawings are marked appropriately at the top margin as either “Replacement” or “Annotated.”

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the objection to the drawings.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-21 as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. According to the Examiner: “In Claim 1, it is incorrect to recite that the control signal supply circuit ‘outputs’ a first voltage, i.e., this should be changed to recite that the control signal supply circuit ‘generates’ a first voltage.” The Examiner also states that Claim 14 has the same indefiniteness problems as Claim 1. Applicants have amended Claim 1 by replacing “outputs” with “generates.” Similarly, Claim 14 has been amended by replacing “outputting” with “generating.”

The Examiner also states that lines 6-7 in Claim 1 are incorrect “because the third voltage (V_{mo}) is generated by multiplying V_{comp} by V_a , not by multiplying V_{comp} by a predetermined gain.” Applicants respectfully traverse. Claim 1 states that “a third voltage is generated by multiplying the first voltage by a predetermined gain.” As stated in the present Specification, “a multiplier 260 multiplies output signals of the subtractor 220 and the comparator 240 by a predetermined gain K to generate a voltage V_{mo} .” (See paragraph 0031). The output voltage V_{mo} is also specifically given in Equation 1 as

$V_{mo} = K \times V_{comp} \times (V_r - V_{nc})$, where K is the predetermined gain and $(V_r - V_{nc})$ is V_a . (See paragraph 0032). For these reasons, lines 6-7 in Claim 1 are not indefinite.

In light of the above, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw any rejection of Claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that Claims 1-21 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph set forth in the Office Action. Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 14, as discussed above, and therefore, Claims 1-21 should now be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue. Should the Examiner wish to discuss the Application, it is requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at (415) 772-1200.

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.:
EV 611 225 880 US

Respectfully submitted,

By:



Philip W. Woo
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 39,880
PWW/rp

January 26, 2005

SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP
555 California Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94104-1715

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

The drawings are objected to because Fig. 1 and 4 had missing or incorrect components. Corrections have been made and amended Fig. 1 and 4 have been submitted with this Response.

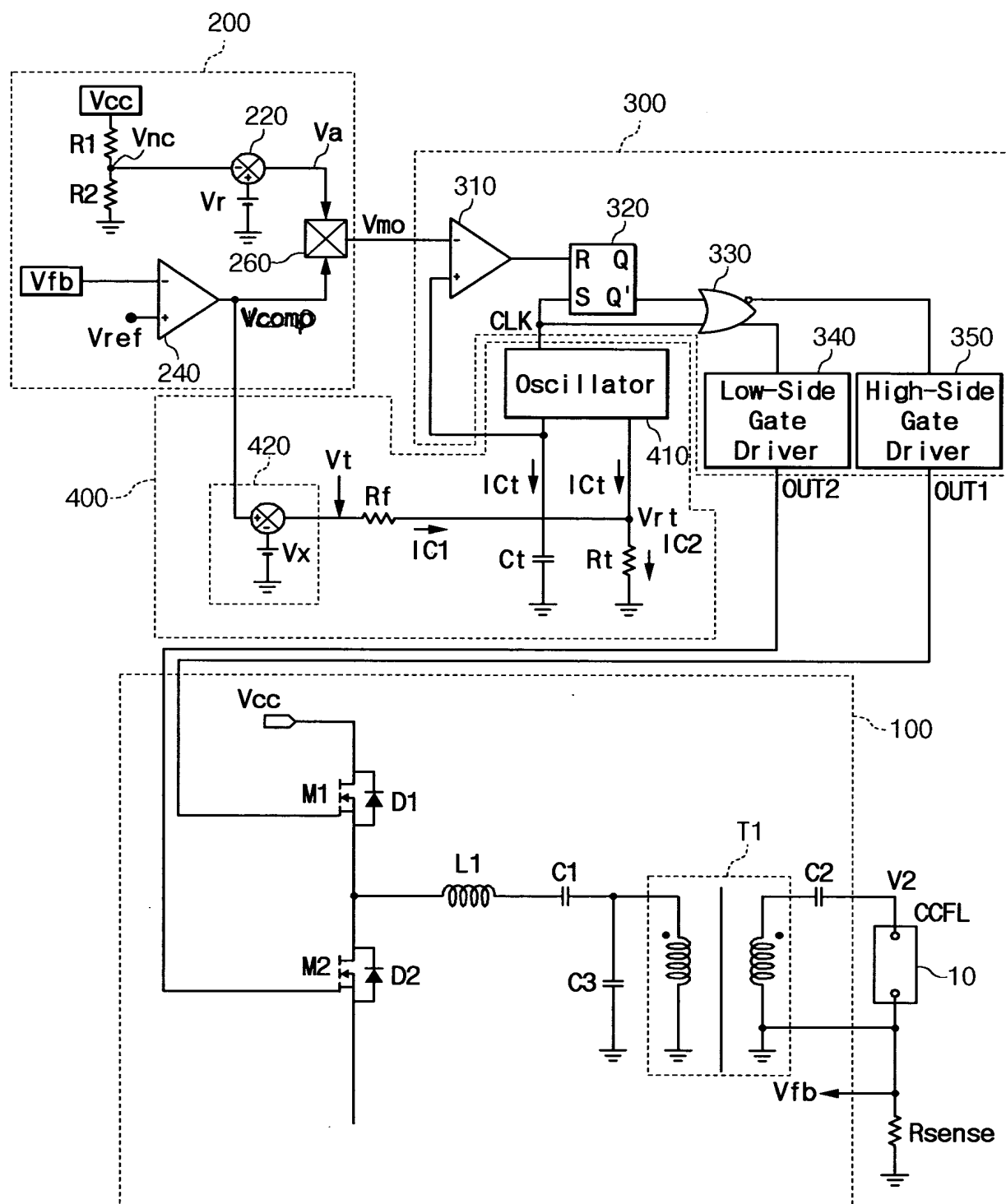


Fig. 4

